

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 08057 071653Z
ACTION PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 MCE-00
ACDA-12 TRSE-00 HA-05 OMB-01 EB-08 SSO-00 INRE-00
NSCE-00 SP-02 SS-15 /071 W
-----002331 071656Z /47

O 071648Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7870
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE
INFO DA WASHDC
CDRUSASAC ALEX VA
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 08057

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN PURCHASE OF M60 TANKS

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: MASS, MPOL, AU

REF: A) VIENNA 06704 (DTG 251452ZJUL78(C)
B) STATE 198177 (DTG 050044ZAUG78(C)

SECDEF FOR DSAA, DA FOR DAMO-SSA, USASAC FOR DRSAC-ME/SE,
CINCEUR FOR ECJ4/7-SA

1. PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF GOA DEFENSE MINISTER ROESCH
INFORMED US IN MEETING SEPTEMBER 6 THAT AUSTRIA HAS DECIDED
RPT DECIDED IT WISHES TO PURCHASE FIFTY (50) M60 TANKS FROM
U.S. GOA DESIRES TO SIGN LOA AND MAKE INITIAL DEPOSIT THIS
MONTH SO THAT IT CAN OBTAIN THE TANKS UNDER CURRENT PRICE
AND AVAILABILITY CONDITIONS.

2. WE APPRECIATE LOA TIMING PROBLEM (REF B) BUT CONSIDER
IT IMPORTANT, FOR REASONS SET FORTH REF A AND IN LIGHT OF
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 08057 071653Z

GOA DECISION, THAT TANK TRANSACTION NOW BE FACILITATED IN
EVERY WAY POSSIBLE. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE UNDERSTAND CON-
SIDERATION WAS TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO ISSUANCE OF A DRAFT
APPROVAL DOCUMENT WHICH COULD BE PRESENTED TO GOA PRIOR TO
OCTOBER 1. SUCH INTERIM DOCUMENTATION, PENDING ISSUANCE OF
LOA, WOULD MEET OUR NEEDS IF IT PERMITTED DOD TO INITIATE
PROCUREMENT OF THE TANKS FOR AUSTRIA BY END OF SEPTEMBER

AND AT PRICES STATED IN PREVIOUS MESSAGES. FYI. OUR INFORMANTS INDICATE THAT ROESCH IS UNDER CONTINUING PRESSURE WITHIN GOVERNMENT CIRCLES TO DISCUSS A TANK PURCHASE WITH THE FRENCH AND ITALIANS. HE WANTS OUR M60 TANK, HOWEVER, AND THEREFORE WANTS A SIGNED AGREEMENT NOW. END.FYI.

3. ROESCH HAS ASKED THAT WE PROVIDE HIM WITH TERMS OF PAYMENT FOR TANKS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, BEFORE LOA ARRIVES, IN ORDER TO ARRANGE FINANCING. (FYI. WE HAVE BEEN TOLD THAT AUSTRIA WILL FINANCE THIS PURCHASE THROUGH AUSTRIAN AND/OR SWISS BANKS.) BORG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY SALES, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 sep 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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